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## UMBRELLAS

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### GARDNER S. WAINWRIGHT

#### Passes Peacefully Away at His Home in This Village.

In the death of Gardner Southworth Wainwright on the morning of May 18th, this community has lost a valuable citizen, who had the confidence and esteem of all who knew him throughout the State. He was born January 21, 1833, in the same house in which he died, having almost attained "by reason of strength" the fourscore years allotted by the psalmist. It is interesting to recall that this historic house, built over a century ago, was the home of Gamaliel Painter, "the father of the village."

Mr. Wainwright was educated at the Addison County Grammar school, and after graduation was for a while at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. At the age of nineteen he chose the mercantile profession, in which his father had been eminently successful, and for eight years was connected with the firm of James H. Peck & Co. of Burlington. In 1863 he became a member of the firm of Beckwith & Co. of Middlebury, in which he remained an active partner for 44 years, until his retirement from business in 1907.

For over twenty-seven years he was a Director in the National Bank of Middlebury, and Vice-President from 1904 till the date of his death. He twice represented the town in the Legislature—in 1872-3, and 1904-5.

In 1868 he married Martha Agnes Bissell of Shoreham, who with their three daughters remained to be the comfort and support of his declining years.

Mr. Wainwright's life was eminently successful. He inherited the talent for business that was manifest in the career of his father, Rufus Wainwright, and in that of his maternal grandfather, Samuel Sargent. He was always enterprising and judicious in his purchase of goods, as well as zealous to serve his patrons to the best of his ability. There are those in town, who, after transactions extending through twenty or thirty years, can testify that his word was an unfailing guarantee of the quality of their purchases. It seemed at times that he almost lost sight of the profits of his business in his devotion to the best interests of his customer. To give satisfaction had become with him a matter of honorable pride; and his reputation for business ability and strict honesty counted with him for more than pecuniary gain.

Mr. Wainwright was ever alive to the best interests of his native town, and his abilities and sterling worth were recognized by his fellow townsmen. Of a quiet and retiring disposition he seldom set himself up as a leader; but his influence and support were always to be counted on to further those measures that made for the public good, and he was often chosen for positions of trust and responsibility. Those who enjoyed his intimate acquaintance were deeply attached to him; he was always straightforward and honorable towards his business associates, and the most loyal and generous of friends.

As health failed during the latter years of his life, his courage and his interest in others were undiminished. His manner was uniformly cheerful and free from all complaint regarding his ailments. The goodness of God that had followed him all the long years of life, supported him as strength of body failed. With a brave heart, "sustained

(Continued on Page 5.)

### CHURCH CONVENTION

#### Annual Meeting of Congregationalists in This Village

The 117th annual convention of the Congregational churches of Vermont was held in Middlebury this week, beginning Tuesday afternoon and closing Thursday forenoon. The sessions, which were in the auditorium of the local Congregational church, were efficiently presided over by Clarks C. Fitts of Brattleboro, Rev. William C. Clark of Barnet acting as secretary. Rev. G. W. C. Hill of St. Johnsbury was elected conference president for the ensuing year.

The membership of the convention included 70 pastors, 54 delegates and 18 members ex-officio. The attendance at several of the sessions numbered between 250 and 300. An enthusiastic spirit was manifest. In the discussions of the convention emphasis was laid on civic activity and social service as functions of the Christian life. Significant resolutions dealing with vital public problems were unanimously adopted. It was a noticeable fact that an increasingly large number of the pastors in the state are filled by energetic, efficient young men who are leaders in the work of civic uplift in their respective communities.

The convention organized Tuesday afternoon with the choice of Rev. E. P. Treat of Pittsford as scribe and Rev. S. H. Barnum of Jericho Center as assistant scribe. President Fitts appointed the following committees: Committee on business, Rev. C. C. Adams of Essex Junction, Frank A. Morse of West Rutland and Rev. J. J. Hutchinson of Lyndonville; committee of nominations, Rev. W. P. Jackson of St. Albans, F. M. Bristol of Vergennes and Rev. S. K. Perkins of Manchester; finance committee, Rev. J. S. Clark of North Bennington, C. F. Ranney of Newport and Rev. C. J. Peterson of East Berkshire. Fraternal greetings from the Middlebury churches were presented by Rev. Richard B. Esten. President Fitts responded. The conference sermon, "The Church an Organization to Fight Evil," was preached by Rev. H. L. Ballou of Chester. Rev. S. K. Perkins of Manchester and Rev. Chauncey Adams of Irasburg administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The addresses of the convention were as follows: Tuesday evening, "The Efficiency of Congregationalism," by Rev. Benjamin Swift of Woodstock, C. I. Button of Middlebury and Prof. Williston Walker of the Yale Divinity school. Wednesday morning, "Matters for Comment in the State," by Rev. C. H. Smith of Burlington. Wednesday afternoon, "Successful Schemes in the Churches of the State," by Rev. S. H. Barnum of Jericho Center, Rev. S. Rose of Cornwall, Rev. S. F. Bloomfield of Montpelier, Rev. W. L. Boicourt of Waterbury and Rev. A. P. Pratt of Bellows Falls; "The Sunday School," by A. F. Stone of St. Johnsbury and C. D. Howe of Essex Junction; "The Young People," by Rev. F. W. Raymond of Proctor, Rev. A. P. Pratt of Bellows Falls and Rev. W. P. Jackson of St. Albans. Wednesday evening, "Men and Religion," by S. S. Cushing of St. Albans and F. H. Brooks of St. Johnsbury; "Federation Among the Denominations," by Pres. J. M. Thomas of Middlebury. Thursday morning, "The Country Pageant," by Rev. Walter Thorpe of Wallingford; "Social

(Continued on Page 4.)

## SILVER SALE

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